

NEW NAMES AND COMBINATIONS, PRINCIPALLY IN THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN FLORA—VIII

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ABSTRACT

New combinations are proposed in *Aletes*, *Corydalis*, *Gentianella*, and *Pseudognaphalium*, and a new genus, *Mesyropsis*, is proposed for *Linum kingii* S. Wats.

KEY WORDS: *Aletes*, *Corydalis*, *Gentianella*, *Mesyropsis*, *Pseudognaphalium*, Rocky Mountains

Aletes tenuifolius (Nutt.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* (API). BASIONYM: *Musineon tenuifolium* Nutt. *ex* T. & G., *Fl. N. Amer.* 1:642. 1840.

In its acaulescent habitus, *Aletes tenuifolius* is anomalous in *Musineon*, but agrees in all characters with *Aletes* (Weber 1984).

Corydalis curvisiliqua Engelm. subsp. *occidentalis* (Engelm. *ex* A. Gray) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Corydalis aurea* Willd. var. *occidentalis* Engelm. *ex* A. Gray, *Bot. Gaz.* (Crawfordsville) 11:188. 1886.

Ownbey (1947) maintained this as a subspecies of *Corydalis aurea*, and claimed to have seen intergradation. He noted the essential differences between *C. aurea* and subsp. *occidentalis*: "the more strongly monopodial growth form, stouter racemes, generally larger flowers and longer spurs, and, most important, the stouter, more strongly curved, erect or semi-erect fruits. . . In southwestern United States subsp. *occidentalis* is found at lower elevations as a general rule."

In these and other respects, subsp. *occidentalis* matches *Corydalis curvisiliqua* but for one character, the muriculate seed coat. This feature, according to Ownbey, is unique in the genus. Even in subsp. *occidentalis*, the seed coat may be muriculate along the margin, and while the faces of the seeds are not

muriculate, they still show reticulations where the muriculations should be. I regard the muriculate seed coat as a minor variation.

Subsp. *occidentalis* blossoms in the spring (April and May) on the plains, whereas *Corydalis aurea* is a summer blooming plant of the mountains. The two are seasonally and ecologically, as well as morphologically, distinct. That Ownbey saw intergradation in the field is doubtful; perhaps he was interpreting poor herbarium specimens.

Gentianella strictiflora (Rydb.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* (GEN). BASIONYM: *Gentiana acuta* (Michx.) Grisebach in Hook. var. *strictiflora* Rydb. *Gentiana acuta* (Michx.) Grisebach in Hook. var. *stricta* Grisebach in Hook., *Fl. Bor.-Amer.* 2:63. 1840, non *G. stricta* Willd., 1820. *Amarella strictiflora* (Rydb.) E. Greene. *Gentiana strictiflora* (Rydb.) A. Nels.

As noted by Grisebach, this differs from *Gentiana acuta* in its strict inflorescence. It is ecologically distinct, restricted to marches and fens. Occasional hybridization with *G. acuta* is reflected in herbarium collections. The flower color is usually white, but may be violet.

Gnaphalium and *Pseudognaphalium* (AST).

Following much debate, the genus *Gnaphalium* L. (AST) now is typified by *G. uliginosum* L. (Jeffrey 1979; McNeill, *et al.* 1987; ICBN 1988). *Filaginella* Opiz becomes a synonym of *Gnaphalium*. The familiar tall species formerly called *Gnaphalium* must be transferred to *Pseudognaphalium* Kirpichnikov 1959. None of the combinations so far proposed cover the Colorado species. Three necessary new combinations are made here.

Pseudognaphalium canescens (DC.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Gnaphalium canescens* DC., *Prodromus* 6:228. 1887.

Pseudognaphalium stramineum (H.B.K.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Gnaphalium stramineum* H.B.K., *Nov. Gen. Sp. Plant.* 4:85. 1820.

Pseudognaphalium viscosum (H.B.K.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Gnaphalium viscosum* H.B.K., *Nov. Gen. Sp. Plant.* 4:83. 1820.

Mesygniopsis W.A. Weber, *genus nov.* (LIN).

A *Mesyinium* Raf. differt, gynoecium in 10 segmentes uniseminales; pollen 3 colpatum pariete tenue; styli discreti vel interdum connati usque ad medium. Species typicus: *Linum kingii* S. Wats., *Bot. King's Explor.* 49. 1871.

Mesyniopsis kingii (S. Wats.) W.A. Weber, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM:
Linum kingii S. Wats., *Bot. King's Explor.* 49. 1871.

Rogers (1968) reviewed the yellow flowered western North American and Central American species of *Linum*, sens. lat., treating them conservatively as all belonging to *Linum*, while referring *L. kingii* to the "*L. schiedeana*" complex. Because of the morphological and pollen differences separating this group from the other species treated by him, which I treat as *Mesynium* Raf., it appears justifiable to provide a new genus for them. However, only one new combination is made herein because there appears to be considerable diversity in chromosome base number in the group (Rogers & Harris 1966). Other transfers are best left to the future. The Eurasian and South American species of *Linum*, sens. lat. appear to be equally heterogeneous and deserve monographic study.

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